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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4908
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 002713

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STATE FOR NEA AND EUR/AGS - SAINT-ANDRE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/12/2016

TAGS: PREL PTER USUN LE SY EU AU

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO AUSTRIA ON SYRIA

REF: STATE 150032

Classified By: Economic Political Counselor Gregory E. Phillips. Reasons: 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (SBU) EconPolCouns delivered refetel demarche on September 12 to Wolfgang Lapuh, the Austrian MFA's DAS-level Middle East Director.

¶2. (C) Lapuh agreed with our assessment of Syrian policy. However, he noted that the EU had taken the general position that it was necessary to press our common views directly with players of concern, including Syria. To that end, Lapuh (strictly protect) told us, Austrian Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik planned to meet with Syrian Foriegn Minister Walid Muallem in New York on the margins of the UN General Assembly on Thursday, September 21. He undertook to brief Plassnik on the content of our demarche.

McCaw